UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
LIMITED

A/C.5/50/L.29 (Part II)*
27 December 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

Fiftieth session
FIFTH COMMITTEE
Agenda item 116

PROPOSED PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1996-1997

Draft report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Peter MADDENS (Belgium)

CONTENTS

		Paragraphs	Page
I.	INTRODUCTION .....)		
II.	FIRST READING OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES .....)	[See A/C.5/50/L.29 (Part I)]	
III.	SECOND READING OF THE BUDGET ESTIMATES ....)		
IV.	CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS	15 - 32	2
V.	RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE	33	4

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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IV. CONSIDERATION OF SPECIAL SUBJECTS

A. United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala

15. The Committee considered this subject at its 40th and 43rd meetings, on 14 and 20 December 1995. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/26) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/50/7/Add.9).

16. At its 43rd meeting, on 20 December, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee, approve the estimate of $7,124,800 for MINUGUA for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996, under section 3, Peace-keeping operations and special missions, and authorize the Secretary-General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding a monthly level of $2,329,700 should the mandate of MINUGUA be extended beyond 31 March 1996 (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. I).

B. Revised estimates under section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, section 32, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment

17. The Committee considered this subject at its 41st meeting, on 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/40) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/50/7/Add.10).

18. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General and endorse the recommendation of the Advisory Committee to approve a temporary post at the Under-Secretary-General level, and that such additional appropriation as might be required should be reflected in the performance report for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. II).

C. Integrated Management Information System project: seventh progress report of the Secretary-General

19. The Committee considered this subject at its 41st meeting, on 17 December 1995. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/35). The report of the Advisory Committee was presented orally by its Chairman (see A/C.5/50/SR.41).

20. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. III).

D. Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice

21. The Committee considered this subject at its 41st meeting, on 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/18) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/50/7/Add.11).

22. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General, approve the recommendations of the Advisory Committee thereon and request the Secretary-General to address the issues raised by the Advisory Committee concerning the conditions of service of members of the International Court of Justice in the context of the next review, at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. IV).

E. Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in document A/50/416

23. The Committee considered this subject at its 41st meeting, on 17 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/20); the related report of the Advisory Committee was presented orally by the Chairman (see A/C.5/50/SR.41).

24. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly approve the recommendation of a subvention of $220,000 from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1996 on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 2, Political affairs, of the programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. V).

F. Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

25. The Committee considered this subject at its 41st and 44th meetings, on 17 and 21 December 1995. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/12), which was orally revised at the 41st meeting (see A/C.5/50/SR.41) (see para. 33, draft resolution III).

26. At its 44th meeting, on 21 December, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the report of the Secretary-General and request the Advisory Committee to report thereon to the first resumed fiftieth session of the General Assembly in accordance with established procedures (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. VI).

G. Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

27. The Committee considered this subject at its 20th meeting, on 3 November. It had before it the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Staff Pension Board for 1995 to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund (A/50/312) and the related report of the Advisory Committee (A/50/7/Add.1).

28. The Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly concur with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, approve expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling $40,208,300 net, and authorize the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund, for the biennium 1996-1997, by an amount not exceeding $200,000 (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. VII).

H. Contingency Fund

29. The Committee considered this subject at its 45th meeting, on 22 December 1995. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/49).

30. At the same meeting, the Committee recommended that the General Assembly note that a balance of $19,427,000 would remain in the Contingency Fund (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. VIII).

I. Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses

31. The Committee considered this subject at its 45th meeting, on 22 December. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/50/30).

32. At the same meeting, the Committee decided, upon the recommendation of its Chairman, to consider the report of the Secretary-General at its resumed fiftieth session, and pending a decision on the Secretary-General's proposal, to authorize him to continue with the current arrangements until a decision is taken on the basis of the report of the Advisory Committee (see para. 33, draft resolution III, sect. IX).

V. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

33. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

DRAFT RESOLUTION I

Questions related to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

[see A/C.5/50/L.30]

DRAFT RESOLUTION II

Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

A

Budget appropriations for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1996-1997:

1. Appropriations totalling 2,608,274,000 United States dollars are hereby approved for the following purposes:

	Section		US dollars
PART I.	Overall policy-making, direction and coordination		
	1. Overall policy-making, direction and coordination		40 348 200
		Total, part I	40 348 200
PART II.	Political affairs		
	2. Political affairs		60 989 500
	3. Peace-keeping operations and special missions		102 868 200
	4. Outer space affairs		4 705 500
		Total, part II	168 563 200
PART III.	International justice and law		
	5. International Court of Justice		21 339 600
	6. Legal activities		31 605 400
		Total, part III	52 945 000
PART IV.	International cooperation for development		
	7A. Department for Policy Coordination and Sustainable Development		44 318 700
	7B. Africa: critical economic situation, recovery and development		4 305 100
	8. Department for Economic and Social Information and Policy Analysis		48 612 100

	Section	US dollars
	9. Department for Development Support and Management Services	26 556 000
	10A. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development	121 925 300
	10B. International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT	21 642 000
	11. United Nations Environment Programme	9 512 200
	12. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)	13 059 600
	13. Crime control	5 254 600
	14. International drug control	17 344 100
	Total, part IV	312 529 700
PART V.	Regional cooperation for development	
	15. Economic Commission for Africa	87 845 600
	16. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific	66 379 300
	17. Economic Commission for Europe	52 883 100
	18. Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean	88 327 200
	19. Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia	37 791 200
	20. Regular programme of technical cooperation	44 814 700
	Total, part V	378 041 100
PART VI.	Human rights and humanitarian affairs	
	21. Human rights	52 987 600
	22. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	54 318 500
	23. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees in the Near East	22 643 000
	24. Department of Humanitarian Affairs	21 039 300
	Total, part VI	150 988 400

	Section	US dollars
PART VII.	Public information	
	25. Public information	137 658 000
	Total, part VII	137 658 000
PART VIII.	Common support services	
	26. Administration and management	960 885 100
	Total, part VIII	960 885 100
PART IX.	Jointly financed administrative activities and special expenses	
	27. Jointly financed administrative activities	28 915 000
	28. Special expenses	41 701 700
	Total, part IX	70 616 700
PART X.	Office of Internal Oversight Services	
	29. Office of Internal Oversight Services	15 716 500
	Total, part X	15 716 500
PART XI.	Capital expenditures	
	30. Technological innovations	21 999 600
	31. Construction, alteration, improvement and major maintenance	31 585 400
	Total, part XI	53 585 000
PART XII.	Staff assessment	
	32. Staff assessment	369 080 100
	Total, part XII	369 080 100
PART XIII.	International Seabed Authority	
	33. International Seabed Authority	1 308 200
	Total, part XIII	1 308 200
	Total, expenditure sections	2 712 265 200
	Less: anticipated reductions to be confirmed by the General Assembly	(103 991 200)
	GRAND TOTAL	2 608 274 000

/...

2. The Secretary-General shall be authorized to transfer credits between sections of the budget with the concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

3. The total net provision made under the various sections of the budget for contractual printing shall be administered as a unit under the direction of the United Nations Publications Board;

4. In addition to the appropriations approved under paragraph 1 above, an amount of 51,000 dollars is appropriated for each year of the biennium 1996-1997 from the accumulated income of the Library Endowment Fund for the purchase of books, periodicals, maps and library equipment and for such other expenses of the Library at the Palais des Nations as are in accordance with the objects and provisions of the endowment.

B

Income estimates for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the biennium 1996-1997:

1. Estimates of income other than assessments on Member States totalling 480,901,700 United States dollars are approved as follows:

Income section	US dollars
1. Income from staff assessment	384 306 000
2. General income	86 209 200
3. Services to the public	886 500
Total, income sections	471 401 700

2. The income from staff assessment shall be credited to the Tax Equalization Fund in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955;

3. Direct expenses of the United Nations Postal Administration, services to visitors, catering and related services, garage operations, television services and the sale of publications, not provided for under the budget appropriations, shall be charged against the income derived from those activities.

C

Financing of appropriations for the year 1996

The General Assembly

Resolves that for the year 1996:

1. Budget appropriations consisting of 1,304,137,000 United States dollars, being half of the appropriations of 2,608,274,000 dollars approved for the biennium 1996-1997 by the General Assembly under paragraph 1 of resolution A above, and 24,160,900 dollars, being the increase in revised appropriations for 1994-1995 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 50/205 A, shall be financed in accordance with regulations 5.1 and 5.2 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations as follows:

(a) 43,547,850 dollars, being the net of half of the estimated income other than staff assessment approved for the biennium 1996-1997 under resolution B above, less 946,800 dollars, being the decrease in income other than staff assessment for 1994-1995;

(b) 1,285,696,850 dollars, being the assessment on Member States in accordance with General Assembly resolution 49/19 B of 23 December 1994 on the scale of assessments for the years 1996 and 1997;

2. There shall be set off against the assessments on Member States, in accordance with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 973 (X) of 15 December 1955, their respective share in the Tax Equalization Fund in the total amount of 197,885,900 dollars, consisting of 192,153,000 dollars, being half of the estimated staff assessment income approved for the biennium 1996-1997 under resolution B above, and 5,732,900 dollars, being the increase in the income from staff assessment for the biennium 1994-1995 approved by the Assembly in its resolution 50/205 B.

DRAFT RESOLUTION III

Questions relating to the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

I

United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary General 1/ and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report; 2/

2. Approves the estimate of 7,124,800 United States dollars for the United Nations Mission for the Verification of Human Rights and of Compliance with the Commitments of the Comprehensive Agreement on Human Rights in Guatemala for the period from 1 January to 31 March 1996, under section 3, Peace-keeping operations and special missions, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997; 3/

3. Authorizes the Secretary General to enter into commitments in an amount not exceeding a monthly level of 2,329,700 dollars should the mandate of the Mission be extended beyond 31 March 1996.

II

Revised estimates under section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, section 32, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on the revised estimates under section 1, Overall policy-making, direction and coordination, section 32, Staff assessment, and income section 1, Income from staff assessment, 4/ of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997; 3/

2. Endorses the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions 5/ to approve a temporary post at the Under-Secretary-General level, as requested by the Secretary-General, and that

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1/ A/C.5/50/26.

2/ A/50/7/Add.9.

3/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Fiftieth Session, Supplement No. 6 (A/50/6/Rev.1), vol. I.

4/ A/C.5/50/40.

5/ A/50/7/Add.10, para. 6.

such additional appropriation as might be required should be reflected in the performance report for the biennium 1996-1997.

III

Integrated Management Information System project: seventh progress report of the Secretary-General

Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General 6/ and the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions.

IV

Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 7/

2. Approves the recommendation thereon of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions in its report; 8/

3. Requests the Secretary-General to address the issues raised by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the conditions of service of members of the International Court of Justice in the context of the next review, at the fifty-third session of the General Assembly.

V

Request for subvention to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research resulting from the recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Institute contained in the report of the Board 9/

Approves the recommendation of a subvention of 220,000 dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations for 1996, on the understanding that no additional appropriation would be required under section 2, Political affairs, of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. 3/

6/ A/C.5/50/35.

7/ A/C.5/50/18.

8/ A/50/7/Add.11, para. 14.

9/ A/50/416, annex II, para. 48.

VI

Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

1. Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General; 10/

2. Requests the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions to report thereon to the General Assembly at the first part of its resumed fiftieth session, in accordance with established procedures.

VII

Administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund

Having considered the report of the Standing Committee of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board for 1995 to the General Assembly and to the member organizations of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund, 11/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 12/

1. Concurs with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the administrative expenses of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund;

2. Approves expenses, chargeable directly to the Fund, totalling 40,208,300 dollars net for the biennium 1996-1997 and an increase in expenses of 835,500 dollars net for the biennium 1994-1995, for the administration of the Fund;

3. Authorizes the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board to supplement the voluntary contributions to the Emergency Fund for the biennium 1996-1997 by an amount not exceeding 200,000 dollars.

VIII

Contingency fund

Notes that a balance of 19,427,000 dollars remains in the contingency fund.

10/ A/C.5/50/12.

11/ A/50/312.

12/ A/50/7/Add.1.

IX

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses

Decides to consider the report of the Secretary-General 13/ at its fiftieth resumed session, and pending a decision on the Secretary-General's proposal, to authorize him to continue with the current arrangements until a decision is taken on the basis of the report of the Advisory Committee.

DRAFT RESOLUTION IV

Unforeseen and extraordinary expenses for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

1. Authorizes the Secretary-General, with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and subject to the Financial Regulations of the United Nations and the provisions of paragraph 3 below, to enter into commitments in the biennium 1996-1997 to meet unforeseen and extraordinary expenses arising either during or subsequent to the biennium, provided that the concurrence of the Advisory Committee shall not be necessary for:

(a) Such commitments, not exceeding a total of 5 million United States dollars in any one year of the biennium 1996-1997, as the Secretary-General certifies relate to the maintenance of peace and security;

(b) Such commitments as the President of the International Court of Justice certifies relate to expenses occasioned by:

(i) The designation of ad hoc judges (Statute of the International Court of Justice, Article 31), not exceeding a total of 300,000 dollars;

(ii) The calling of witnesses and the appointment of experts (Statute, Article 50), and the appointment of assessors (Statute, Article 30), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

(iii) The maintenance in office for the completion of cases of judges who have not been re-elected (Statute, Article 13, paragraph 3), not exceeding a total of 40,000 dollars;

(iv) The payment of pensions and travel and removal expenses of retiring judges, and travel and removal expenses and installation grant of members of the Court (Statute, Article 32, paragraph 7), not exceeding a total of 180,000 dollars;

(v) The work of the Court or its Chambers away from The Hague (Statute, Article 22), not exceeding a total of 50,000 dollars;

13/ A/C.5/50/30.

2. Resolves that the Secretary-General shall report to the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and to the General Assembly at its fifty-first and fifty-second sessions all commitments made under the provisions of the present resolution, together with the circumstances relating thereto, and shall submit supplementary estimates to the Assembly in respect of such commitments;

3. Decides that, for the biennium 1996-1997, if a decision of the Security Council results in the need for the Secretary-General to enter into commitments relating to the maintenance of peace and security in an amount exceeding 10 million dollars in respect of the decision, that matter shall be brought to the General Assembly, or, if the Assembly is suspended or not in session, a resumed or special session of the Assembly shall be convened by the Secretary-General to consider the matter.

DRAFT RESOLUTION V

Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1996-1997

The General Assembly

Resolves that:

1. The Working Capital Fund shall be established for the biennium 1996-1997 in the amount of 100 million United States dollars;

2. Member States shall make advances to the Working Capital Fund in accordance with the scale adopted by the General Assembly for contributions of Member States to the budget for the year 1996;

3. There shall be set off against this allocation of advances:

(a) Credits to Member States resulting from transfers made in 1959 and 1960 from the surplus account to the Working Capital Fund in an adjusted amount of 1,025,092 dollars;

(b) Cash advances paid by Member States to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1994-1995 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 48/232 of 23 December 1993;

4. Should the credits and advances paid by any Member State to the Working Capital Fund for the biennium 1994-1995 exceed the amount of that Member State's advance under the provisions of paragraph 2 above, the excess shall be set off against the amount of the contributions payable by the Member State in respect of the biennium 1996-1997;

5. The Secretary-General is authorized to advance from the Working Capital Fund:

(a) Such sums as may be necessary to finance budgetary appropriations pending the receipt of contributions; sums so advanced shall be reimbursed as soon as receipts from contributions are available for the purpose;

(b) Such sums as may be necessary to finance commitments that may be duly authorized under the provisions of the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly, in particular resolution 50/217 of 23 December 1995 relating to unforeseen and extraordinary expenses; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates for reimbursing the Working Capital Fund;

(c) Such sums as may be necessary to continue the revolving fund to finance miscellaneous self-liquidating purchases and activities which, together with net sums outstanding for the same purpose, do not exceed 200,000 dollars; advances in excess of the total of 200,000 dollars may be made with the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(d) With the prior concurrence of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, such sums as may be required to finance payments of advance insurance premiums where the period of insurance extends beyond the end of the biennium in which payment is made; the Secretary-General shall make provision in the budget estimates of each biennium, during the life of the related policies, to cover the charges applicable to each biennium;

(e) Such sums as may be necessary to enable the Tax Equalization Fund to meet current commitments pending the accumulation of credits; such advances shall be repaid as soon as credits are available in the Tax Equalization Fund;

6. Should the provision in paragraph 1 above prove inadequate to meet the purposes normally related to the Working Capital Fund, the Secretary-General is authorized to utilize, in the biennium 1996-1997, cash from special funds and accounts in his custody, under the conditions approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 1341 (XIII) of 13 December 1958, or the proceeds of loans authorized by the Assembly.